

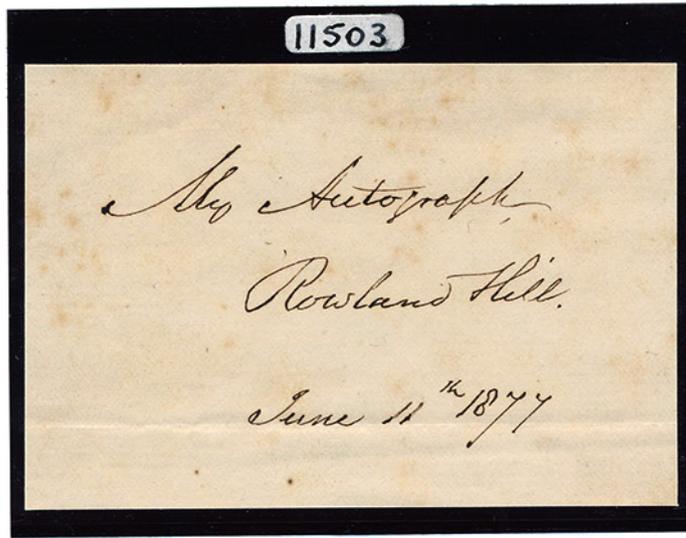
EASTER TREATS.



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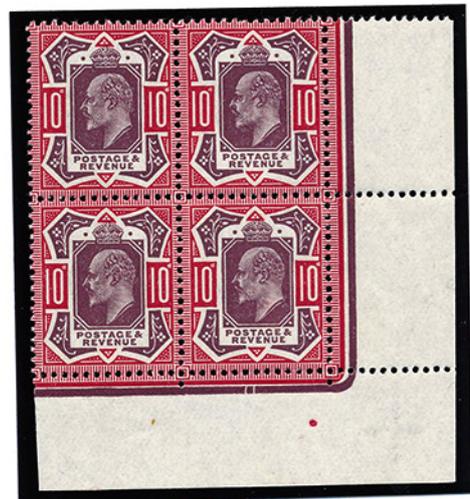
Another little selection.



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89



A VILLAGE POST OFFICE.

1. MY AUTOGRAPH. ROWLAND HILL. JUNE 11 1877. A fine piece. Nice and clear. By the pioneer of Penny postage. A Brandon certificate accompanies. £250
2. PAID AT LAUCESTON. A good strike in black on small entire from a Baroness Bassett to Sir Warwick Hill Tonkin. A fine PAID Tombstone for Aug 3 1840. Endorsed '1' and 'prepaid'. Lovely and clean. **£55**
3. Plate 1a 1d Grey Black worn plate. Lettered GF with perfect well cut margins and a lightly applied Maltese cross in red. Very fine. **£385**
4. 1d Grey-Black plate 1b. A very fine adhesive lettered SI. With excellent margins and a largely full and upright Maltese cross in orange-red. **£325**
5. 1d Black plate 2. A choice well cut single lettered HE with a crisp and lightly placed Maltese cross in red. **£350**
6. PLATE TWO CANCELLED IN BLACK. 1d Black lettered MB. 4 very choice margins and a part crisp Maltese cross. Very fine indeed. £350
7. 1d Black plate 4. A beautiful example lettered OA. Wonderful margins and a crisp Maltese cross in orange-red. **£375**

FORBIDDEN ITEMS

Each foreign country has its own rules governing what may and may not enter its borders through the post. Quite a number forbid the importing of live bees, silkworms, and playing cards. Several states in South America bar police whistles. Others will not admit ostrich feathers, unless made up into boas or hats. The United States, on the other hand, bans all feather except ostrich feathers. It is forbidden to send uniforms to some of the British possession unless the person to whom they are addressed can prove that he has the right to wear them. Among the items barred by the Dutch postal authorities are 'gooseberry bushes or parts thereof', while Tunis positively refuses to admit fresh truffles. The gold coast will have nothing to do with handcuffs or brass knuckle dusters; Ecuador objects to feeding-bottles having rubber or glass tubes; and the authorities in Czechoslovakia will not allow Christmas crackers to enter the country. Parcels coming into this country from abroad have to be examined for dutiable contents. The post office has a working arrangement with the Customs authorities for the collection of the duty, and there is a huge room at Mount Pleasant, filled with long counters, at which incoming parcels are opened and their contents checked through by men who have all the informations concerning tariffs at their finger-ends.



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THE PORTSMOUTH ROAD



“TO THE LONG PULL UPWARDS TO
THE DEVIL’S PUNCH BOWL.”

8. 1d Black plate 6. A MAGNIFICENT SINGLE ON CLEAN ENTIRE WRAPPER TO BRADFORD. The adhesive lettered EC with margins cut good-large-HUGE and tied by a clear, crisp orange red Maltese cross. Reverse flap a superb WAKEFIELD CDS for OCT 16 1840 in the same orange red ink. The adhesive shows a very strong vertical guide line north east square. A VERY CHOICE COVER. £525
9. 1d Black plate 6. A FABULOUS SINGLE. With generous and outstanding margins. Lettered IE. A crisp, light and upright Maltese cross in orange-red. THE BEST. £425
10. PLATE 7. 1d Black. Lettered OL with excellent margins bearing part sheet marginal with inscriptional detail and a crisp, lightly applied Maltese cross in black. £625
11. Plate 9 1d Red-Brown. Lettered IB with excellent margins and a crisp lightly placed Maltese cross. £90
12. PLATE TEN with a superb strike of the distinctive MANCHESTER ‘FISH TAIL’ MALTESE CROSS. Lettered LI with fine margins. An outstanding strike. £475
13. BLACK PLATE ELEVEN in Red Brown. Lettered AD with good-ENORMOUS margins. Tied to uncreased entire by a black Maltese cross. Reverse a ROWN CDS for July 8 1841. Very fine. £220
14. 2d Blue plate 2. A lovely example lettered KG. Full margined, two being large-Huge. A crisp Black Maltese cross and a Brandon certificate accompanies. £425
15. Number 1 in Maltese cross. A glorious strike on 1841 1d lettered IC with good-ENORMOUS margins. £140
16. Number 2 in Maltese cross. A lovely upright strike on 1841 1d lettered OL. Perfectly cut with full margins. £80
17. Number 10 in Maltese cross on 1841 1d lettered KD. Fine full margins and a crisp upright strike. £180



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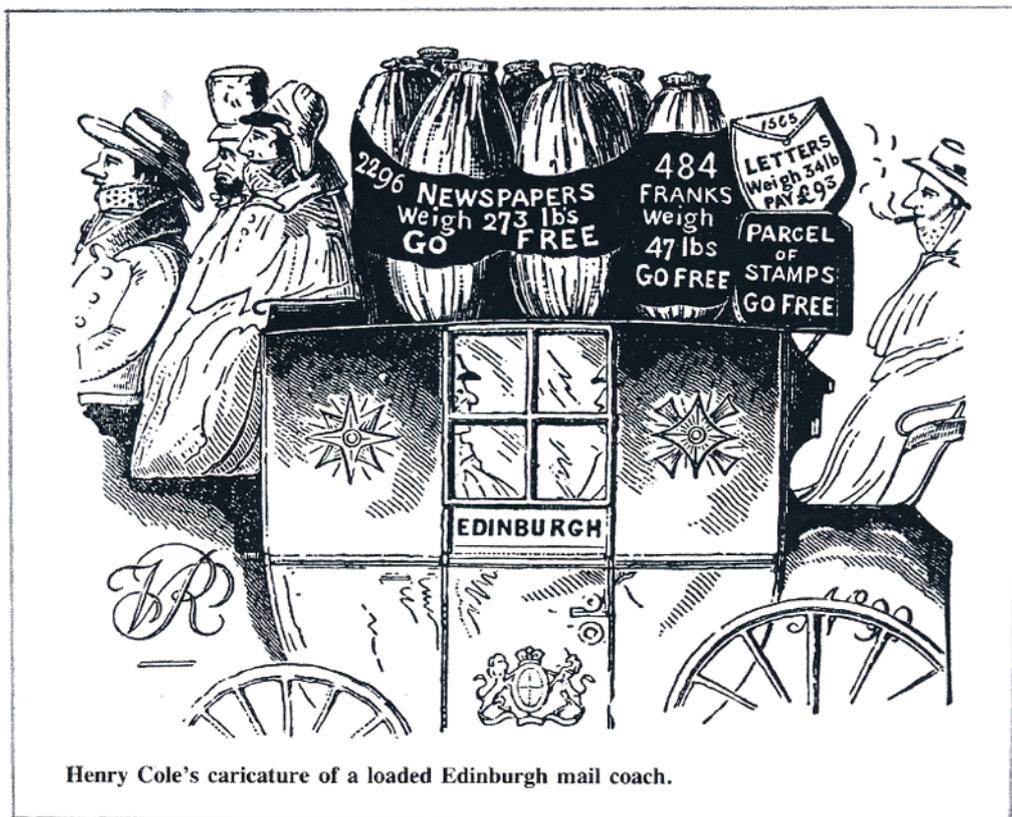
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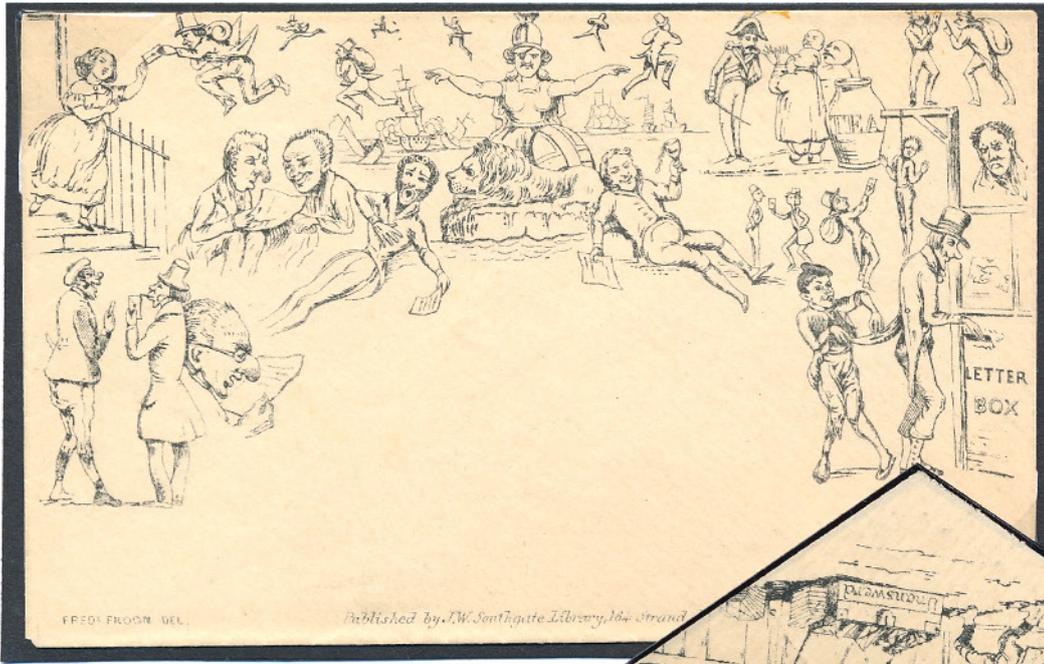


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Henry Cole's caricature of a loaded Edinburgh mail coach.

18. Number 10 in Maltese cross. On 1841 1d Red-Brown plate 34. Lettered ML with large-huge margins. **£160**
19. Number 12 in Maltese cross. A very fine strike on 1841 1d lettered EE. With fine full margins. **£165**
20. A BLUE NUMERAL. 1844 1d lettered BB. Perfect margins and a lightly applied numeral cancel in blue. **£115**
21. 1d Pale Red Brown plate 19. Lettered FI. Tied to very clean and uncreased entire to CONGLETON by a crisp Maltese cross. CONGLETON AND MANCHESTER CDSs on reverse. **£60**
22. 1d Red Brown plate 35. A superb example lettered SH with excellent margins and lightly tied to entire by a Maltese cross. Sealed at back by a yellow paper wafer. Reverse a fine SHEFFIELD CDS. Uncreased. **£65**
23. SG 9 1d pale Red Brown on very blued paper. A PAIR from plate 125 tied to printed Life insurance form by light London District cancels. Reverse a Bolton CDS and another for JAN 26 1852. Both clear and crisp. Usual opening fault. Clean and uncreased. **£95**
24. SG 9 1d Pale Red-Brown plate 70. Showing a very worn plate. Lettered SE with excellent margins and a light Scottish numeral cancel. **£45**
25. NUMBER 12 IN MALTESE CROSS on 1841 2d Blue plate 3. Lettered CB with perfect margins and a lovely strike light and crisp. **£175**
26. SG 13 1841 2d Pale Blue plate 3. Part sheet margin. Lettered NL very generously cut and lightly used. **£95**
27. SG 13. 2d Pale Blue plate 4. A fine full margined single lettered KL with part sheet margin at right. A crisp upright London District duplex cancel. **£85**



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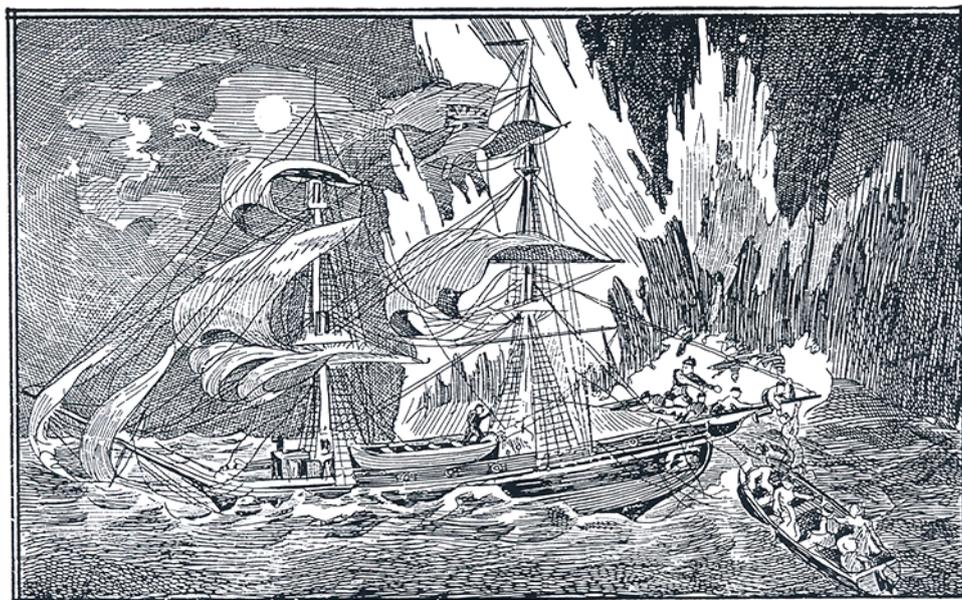
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AN OLD PICTURE OF THE WRECKING OF A MAIL-BOAT

28. SOUTHGATES ENVELOPE Number 1. By Deraedemaeker. In fine condition outstanding engraved detail. **£90**
29. MENZIES ENVELOPE by Deraedemaeker. With fine engraved illustration at front as well as on all four back flaps. Excellent condition. **£90**
30. SG C6 1d Red-Brown tied to entire by a full clear CASTLE STREET Box. Reverse CDS for NOV 1 1855. **£60**
31. SG 20a 2d Blue plate 5. Very well centred. Lettered DD. A featherlight numeral cancel. **£165**
32. SG 23 2d Blue plate 4. A lovely fresh single with a crisp numeral cancel. **£110**
33. SG 36a 2d Deep Blue. A VFU example with a crisp CANTERBURY steel CDS. RPS certificate accompanies. **£185**
34. USED IN MALTA. SG 40 1d. plate 48. A most attractive STRIP OF THREE. **£90**
35. SG 43 1d plate 117. A fine sheet marginal mint block of 4. With 3 adhesive mint unmounted. **£185**
36. SG 43 1d plate 156. Superb mint unmounted with sheet margin attached showing inscriptional detail and marginal ornament. **£85**
37. SG 43 1d plate 170. A fine block of twelve. The attached sheet margin shows the full inscriptional detail and the 'POSTAGE' watermark. With nine adhesives unmounted mint. Some minor perf splits and a few dented perfs to one stamp but a clean and most impressive multiple. **£285**
38. SG 43 1d plate 209. A SHEET MARGINAL MINT BLOCK OF NINE. With inscriptional detail. With 5 adhesives mint unmounted. A lovely fresh multiple. **£250**
39. SG 45 2d plate 12 tied to Mourning envelope by a 308 numeral and STIRLING CDS alongside. **£75**
40. SG 47 2d Blue plate 14. SUPERB MINT. Fine and very fresh MM. A lovely single. **£185**
41. SG 48 1/2d plate 5. A handsome sheet marginal strip of three showing part inscriptional detail perfectly fresh with all stamps mint unmounted. Lovely quality. **£240**



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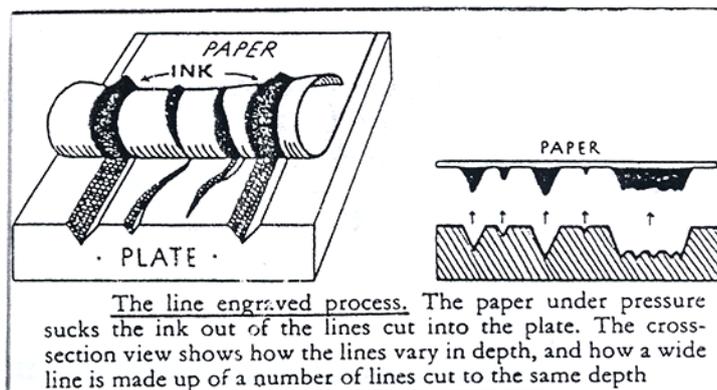


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The Times. 6th June 1841.
 You must kiss our fair Queen, or her pictures, thats clear.
 Or the gummy medallion will never adhere.
 You will not kiss her hand you will readily find.
 But actually kiss little Vicky's behind.



42. SG 48 1/2d plate 11 with a crisp upright LONDON steel CDS. **£45**
43. PLATE 20. SG 48 1/2d. Pristine well centred and UNMOUNTED MINT. Imperf at right with margin showing inscriptional detail. Lovely quality. **£220**
44. SG 59 6d Dull Lilac. With fine full margins and excellent colour. A very light numeral cancel. **£350**
45. SG 103 3d plate 6. A superbly placed corner BERWICK steel CDS for **£80**
46. SG 103 3d ROSE plate 7. A quite lovely BLOCK OF 4. Crisp 1092 Telegraphic cancels. **£225**
47. SG 103 3d plate 7. VFU with half a crisp BELFAST steel CDS. **£65**
48. SG 103 3d plate 7. With a crisp and light PARK LANE steel CDS. **£40**
49. SG 103 3d plate 8. A fine block of 4 cancelled contrary to regulations by three crisp EMYVALE steel CDSs. **£140**
50. SG 117 1/- plate 5. With a crisp DUBLIN steel CDS. **£40**
51. SG 122a 6d CHESTNUT plate 11. A lovely PAIR. Cancelled by KILLARNEY steel CDSs. With RPS certificate. **£125**
52. SG 130 5/- ROSE plate 4 blued paper. A very fine example. With wonderful colour and freshness. A fine EDINBURGH steel CDS. **£1700**
53. 150 1/- plate 13. VFU a crisp and complete KINGSBRIDGE steel CDS. **£115**
54. SG 157 2 1/2d plate 22. On fine entire letter (uncreased) to Paris. Very nicely addressed. **£45**
55. A BLUE HUNTINGDON STEEL CDS. A lovely strike on SG 158 3d Rose plate 21. **£140**
56. SG 158 3d plate 21 VFU a light HAMBLESIDE CDS. Most attractive. **£125**
57. SG 159 3d on 3d. lovely colours and a crisp ORMSKIRK steel CDS. **£85**
58. SG 162 6d on 6d. A VFU example with a crisp CHELMSFORD steel CDS. With RPS certificate. **£115**





Uniforms

If you have read Pickwick Papers do you remember these remarks by Mr Jingle as he looked at himself in the glass after borrowing Mr Winkle's new suit, which did not fit him very well: "Rather short in the waist, ain't it? Like a General Postman's coat - queer coats those - made by contract - no measuring - all the short men get long coats - all the long men short coats. That was a long time ago and things are quite different today. The uniform clothing Section of the Post Office Supplies Dept at Hook near Surbiton in Surrey stocks hundreds of sizes of coats and caps, waistcoats and trousers. They will fit all normal figures but outsizes are kept as well. No matter what shape a postman is he will get a uniform to fit him. There are more than 100,000 postman of different grades in this country so huge stocks have to be kept.



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THE MESSAGES OF LONDON.

The first town postmen in Britain were the messengers employed by William Dockwra in his London Penny Post (1680-2). By the beginning of the eighteenth century bellmen were employed in London; they patrolled the streets every hour, ringing a bell to call people out to collect their mail, or to entrust letters to them for onward transmission. Charles Povey, who organised a halfpenny post, using bellmen, was fined for infringing the Postmaster General's monopoly and several of his bellmen similarly punished. Nevertheless, the Post Office absorbed the bellmen system and this continued in London and most provincial towns until 1885, by which time the use of adhesive stamps and street posting boxes had done away with the need for them.

59. SG 163 1/- Orange-Brown plate 13. With a lovely crisp STRANDTOWN BELFAST steel CDS. **£120**
60. SG 163 1/- plate 14. A crisp CHICHESTER steel CDS. **£55**
61. SG 169 5d INDIGO. A superbly crisp corner LONDON steel CDS. RPS certificate accompanies. **£115**
62. SG 178 2/6d LILAC. A crisp London octagon for Sept 2 1890. Most attractive strike. **£80**
63. SG 180 5/- ROSE. A very fine example. A crisp BANGOR steel CDS. Lovely fresh single. **£95**
64. SG 181 5/-. A quite lovely single. A beautifully placed West Hartlepool steel CDS. **£110**
65. SG 181 5/- CRIMSON. With a superb ALLOA steel CDS. Very choice. **£140**
66. SG 181 5/- CRIMSON. With a lovely crisp and complete LOTHBURY CDS. **£90**
67. SG 183 10/- Ultramarine. With a crisp oval cancel. With perfect colour and freshness. **£175**
68. SG 183a 10/- Pale Ultramarine. A superb example with a featherlight and complete LOTHBURY RD REGISTERED steel CDS. **£325**
69. SG 189 2d Lilac. Pristine untouched MINT UNMOUNTED with sheet margin. **£200**
70. SG 191 3d LILAC. Magnificent full colour and freshness. VFU indeed a crisp GEORGE ST. EDINBURGH steel CDS. A beauty. **£110**
71. SG 193 5d Dull Green. A lovely fresh single with a corner steel CDS. **£110**
72. SG 194 6d. A lovely crisp and upright BRIXTON RD steel CDS. Very fine. **£110**
73. SG 207a 5d. A post office fresh MINT UNMOUNTED BLOCK OF FOUR. **£130**
74. SG 214 1/- green and carmine. VFU indeed. A lovely crisp COWBRIDGE CDS. A wonderfully fresh single. RPS certificate at **£90**
75. SG 239 4d Brown-Orange. A featherlight steel CDS. **£60**
76. SG 249 7d Grey-Black. A fine mint unmounted interpane block of 4. **£70**
77. SG 255 10d Slate-Purple and Deep Carmine (chalky) M43 (3). A crisp complete North Shields CDS. **£95**
78. SG 257 1/- Dull Green and Carmine. With a lovely GUILDFORD steel CDS. **£25**
79. SG 257a 1/- Dull Green and Carmine chalky paper. A striking vertical block of 6 with crisp SCUNTHORPE steel CDS. Most attractive. **£140**



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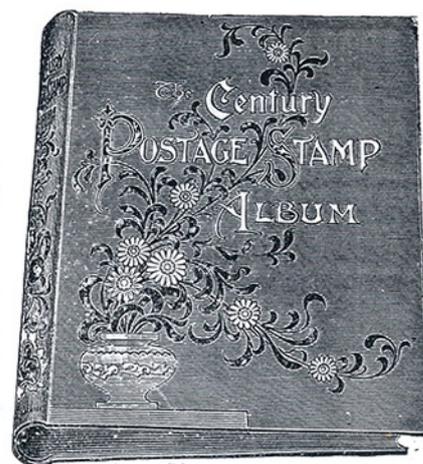
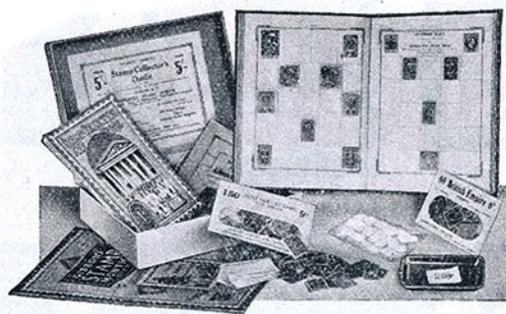
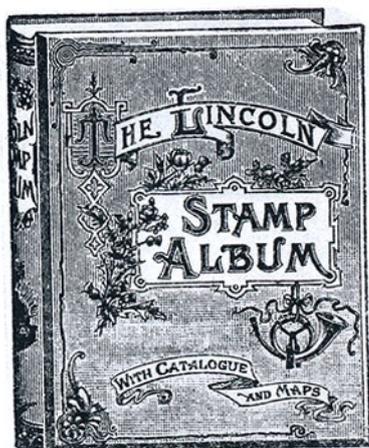
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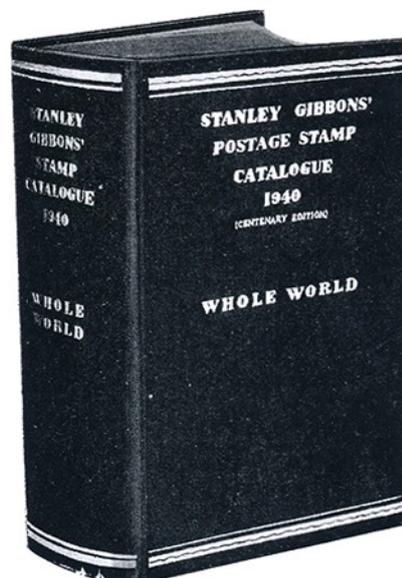
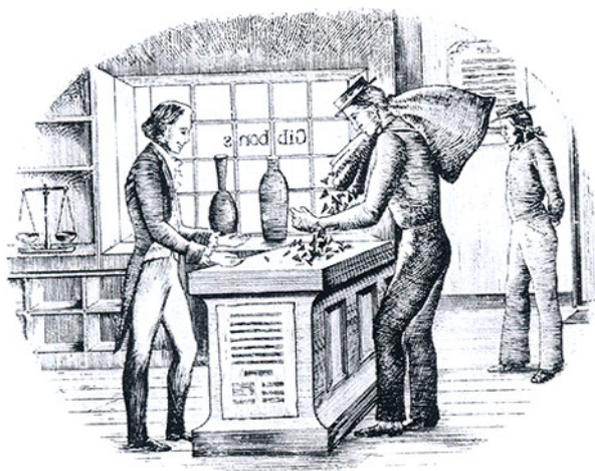
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80. SG 260 2/6d. With a crisp WEST KENSINGTON steel CDS. A lovely adhesive. **£95**
81. SG 260 2/6d. With quite lovely colour and a nice crisp BERNERS ST steel CDS. **£70**
82. SG 263 5/- Bright Carmine. A very fine and upright WIGAN CDS. **£125**
83. SG 265 10/- ULTRAMARINE. A crisp, light, complete and upright Jersey steel CDS. **£325**
84. SG 265 10/- Ultramarine with a crisp and lightly applied Gloucester steel CDS. **£265**
85. SG 294 5d Deep Plum and Cobalt Blue. M30 (4) with a featherlight steel CDS. **£24**
86. SG 303 6d Deep Plum (chalk surfaced paper). Very lightly used indeed. **£45**
87. SG 306 9d USED IN SMYRNA. A marginal single tied to piece by a complete REGISTERED SMYRNA oval. Stunning piece. **£125**
88. SG 307 9d. With a featherlight steel CDS. **£40**
89. SG 311 10d Dull Reddish Purple and Carmine. M44 (6). A very choice CORNER OF SHEET MINT UNMOUNTED BLOCK OF 4 showing printers date cuts and guide dot beneath final adhesive in the sheet. MAGNIFICENT PIECE. **£325**
90. SG 316 2/6d Dull Reddish Purple. VFU a pristine FINCHLEY GREEN steel CDS. Lovely quality. **£140**





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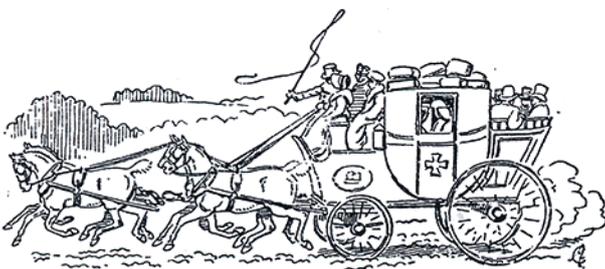
A PRIVATE TRAVELLING CHARIOT AND FOUR.

91. SG 316 2/6d Dull Reddish-Purple. With a crisp GUERNSEY steel CDS. A lovely shade. £120
92. SG 407 2/6d Grey Brown N64 (3). A pristine MINT UNMOUNTED example. Fresh and bright. £375
93. SG 410 5/- Pale Carmine very worn plate. Superb mint. A lovely MM example showing excellent wear. £375
94. SG 412 10/- Blue. With a featherlight steel CDS set clear of The kings profile. An outstanding example. £425

OFFICIAL STAMPS

Official stamps for use on government correspondence, were first prepared in 1840. They consisted of the Penny Black with the lettered VR (Victoria Regina) in the upper corners in place of stars. The stamps were printed in April-May 1840 but were never put into use and 3302 out of the 3323 sheets distributed were destroyed on 25 Jan 1843. Of the balance of 21 sheets 13 were used to distribute specimens with notices to postmasters, and a few of these are known to have been removed from the notices and affixed to letters. Sir Rowland Hill, himself, used several of these VR Penny Blacks for experiments with various forms of obliteration. Instead government departments used ordinary stamps and postal stationery through latterly these stamps were perforated with a crown and the initials of the department. Britain did not issue stamps overprinted for departmental use until 1882. This practice continued till March 1904 but since the 'Official Paid' labels and stationery, machine postmarks and meter marks have been used. The British sixpenny stamps overprinted for the Board of Education was prepared shortly before all official stamps were withdrawn in March 1904. It was never officially issued but six specimens have survived in used condition. Only one is believed to be in private hands making this one of the greatest British rarities.

95. SG 04 6d IR OFFICIAL. Superb mint. Light hinge trace. Lovely and fresh. £275
96. SG 04 6d Grey IR OFFICIAL. With a lovely crisp STEYNING steel CDS. Superb quality. £115
97. SG 014 2 1/2d IR OFFICIAL. Superb MINT UNMOUNTED. In AS ISSUED CONDITION. £145
98. SG 050 6d ARMY OFFICIAL. Pristine quite untouched mint unmounted. £140
99. SG T13. 5/- Telegraphs. A rarely seen block of 4 with crisp Liverpool Stock Exchange CDSs. £275
100. SG 0104 2d Admiralty Official. A light steel CDS. £85



Fairy

The town of Fairy, Texas, U.S.A., was originally known as Martin's Gap after a settler who was killed by the Indians and buried in a gap in the mountains.

When a post office was established here in the 1850's the citizens of Martin's Gap asked the United States postal authorities if the name of the town could be changed to Fairy in honour of a popular little midget woman, the daughter of a Confederate captain who had settled the community

